

JUN 6 - 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Walter Bedell Smith
Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Staff Study on Soviet Germ Warfare Campaign (PSB D-25)

The attached staff study on the current Soviet germ warfare campaign (PSB D-25) is submitted for information and for approval of the recommendations (Paragraphs 19 through 24).

As indicated in the paragraphs referred to above, it is the view of the PSB staff that the current Soviet BW propaganda campaign, and similar campaigns which may be launched in the future, are of sufficient strategic significance to justify close and continuous attention on the part of PSB. At the same time it is recognized that the PSB staff itself is not competent either to advise the Board on the day-to-day operational aspects of the problem or to act as a watch committee with respect to new developments in regard to the Soviet campaign and its implications. It is therefore felt that the proposals contained in Paragraphs 22, 23 and 24 best meet the requirements of the problem from an administrative point of view.

As the aim of the present study was merely to identify the problem and to suggest machinery for dealing with it, no attempt has been made at a definitive analysis of the subject. Since the completion of this study new intelligence has been received indicating that the conclusions could have been strengthened, particularly along the following lines:

1. The Soviet hate-America campaigns are increasingly focussed upon inciting hatred of the U.S. armed forces. Apart from the possible light this throws on Soviet intentions or expectations in the present world situation, it is particularly prejudicial to the U.S. national interest, as compared with less specific types of anti-American propaganda.

2. The campaigns are conducted with as much intensity inside the USSR as in satellite or non-communist countries, and the Soviet government has officially identified itself with even the more extravagant anti-American propaganda to a marked degree. This fact may be a further clue to Soviet intentions, but perhaps its chief significance is that the Soviet government cannot effectively camouflage the campaign or equate it with any privately sponsored anti-communist campaigns in the Western press.

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